

CITY CHAIN's

SEPT/OCT '77' ISSUE ② 25p



Boombtown Rats: INTERVIEW
The Bazoomis: PICS+REVIEW
The Victims* Members
Photo Centre Spread
You + the p...
*V.I.E.N. St
Idea

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GUILTY!

GOD SAVE ELVIS COSTELLO-PLEASE.

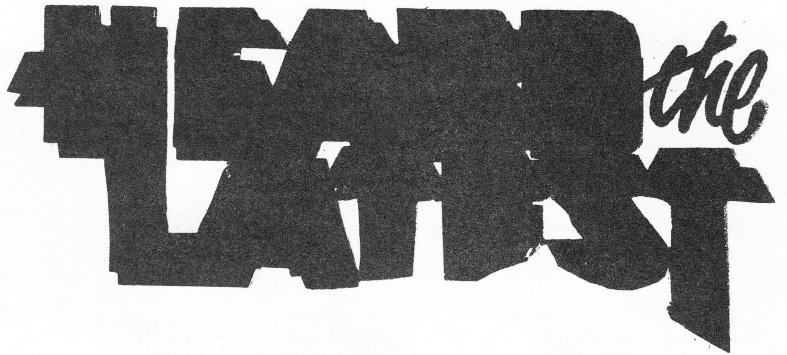
If any of you were unlucky enough to see TOTP, you'd have seen Costello's 100 and 1 ways to murder a classic, namely 'The Angels Wanna Wear My Red Shoes'. The TOTP version had been recorded in the BBC studio earlier on, only to be mimed when the cameras were rolling.

Costello must have had a logical reason for miming, coz, he is an absolutely brilliant live performer. IF NOT I BEG HIM TO DROP THIS SADIST FORM OF SABOTAGE.

Almost every word of the song he mouthed, was badley out of time and the aggressive face pulling looked pathetic, as did the whole embarrassing show. I'm sure when Costello saw it afterwards he realised how useless it was and it that is the case knowing how, Costell is:- it won't happen again. OR WOZ HE TAKING THE MICK !

All letter's to be sent to,
CITY CHAINS.
3, Shephall Way,
Stevenage,
Herts.

All information to be sent to.
CITY CHAINS.
233, Pankhurst Crescent.
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Stevenage,
Herts.



THE DAMMED:- are releasing a new single called 'Problem Child' an Album will follow shortly after its release. A Tour to promote both. Who Told Me --- BRIAN JAMES.

SHAM 69:- have signed a recording contract with Warner Bros (so their office tells me) So you can expect an important Plastic Vinyl chant out soon.

THE YACHTS:- who we saw a couple of weeks ago at the Nashville Rooms have just signed with stiff records, as yet the choice for single has'nt been decided.

IAN DURY:- another Stiff protege has his Album release on September 23, called 'New Boots and Panties'. catch him and other Stiff's on the Record Comp's forthcoming Package.

Loud screams to paul, Adrian(48), the lads in Beaumont Market.

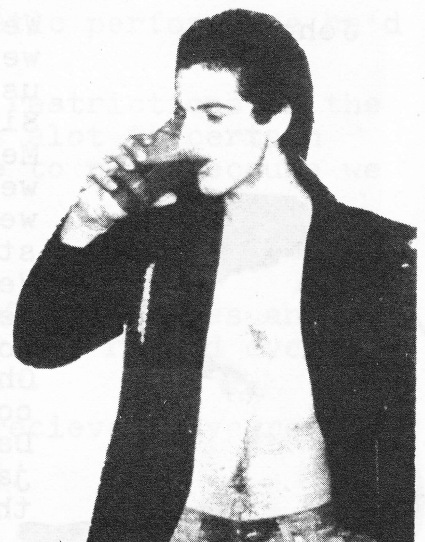
Entrance to exit

Alright! Its me again, our number one issue has sold very well, and we're pleased with the great compliments we've been getting from you. As you know the last one, was our first issue, we'll we think we've made a great step ahead with this one, we're packing much more news into the space's we've got.

Since the last issue, Varicose Veins have played at the Roxy without - Slaughter and the Dogs; which can only do them good. Elvis Costello has broken the Top Thirty with his Lp. Remember what I told you about how difficult tickets would be to get hold of, well it's already started to happen, the Nashville is packed every Sunday, there is going to be many disapointed Costello Fans I can tell ya!

We're very pleased to see that the Home Office is shortly to allow The Heartbreakers back into dear old england; we'll have to make a point of seeing em' because the last time we went to see them we ended up watching Johnny and the Tormentors and Tanya Hyde and the New Hearts at the 'Cally' in Dunstable, it was a bit of a let down. Oh yeah - on the subject of the 'Cally' in Dunstable, for the information of Punks outside the vicinity it has temporarily closed, we shall give you more information when it becomes classified.

If you had difficulty in obtaining the last copy and you would like an easier way of getting one write to us with a p.o. and we'll send you the required amount of copies needed.



The Boomtown Rats

WE LIKE TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE GREAT GROUPS AND ALSO WE LIKE TO POINT OUT THE FAKERS. OFTEN WHEN YOU GET A GREAT GROUP, THEY TURN OUT TO BE A BIG ? HEADED LOAD OF BUGGERS. THE BOOMTOWN RATS ARE A FANTASTIC GROUP, AND THE GUYS IN THE RATS ARE THE MOST FRIENDLY PEOPLE YOU COULD WISH TO MEET.

So read on to find out more about the Rat's.

BOB GELDOF:- Lead Singer.

Gerry:- Guitar.

PETE Bass.

JERRY:- Rythme.

JOHNNY FINGERS:-Keyboards.

SIMON:- Drums.

The gig at the Marquee was scorching. With over 1,000 excited fans inside it was no surprise. We had a chat with Johnny Fingers after he had recovered from the concert.

City Chains. I thought you were brilliant tonight, how did you feel about tonights performance ?

Johnny. It was fucking hot, but I've enjoyed myself. I was very pleased, we put a lot into tonights gig, do you know that as soon as Bob got back stage he passed out.

C.C. Yer, I noticed he was only just able to finish the last number because of that instrumentle break.

John. I love the Marquee, but the heat is a problem. It it ranks as one of my favourite venues. I love London, and Birmingham.

C.C. What have you got lined up for the future.

John. Well on Monday after we come back from Dublin we'll be off to Manchester, Marc Bolan has asked us to appear on his T.V show to perform our new Single.

Mercury want's us to come over to the states, but we want to get a momentum behind us here before we go dashing off anywhere. There is also the strong possibility of a tour of Europe and Japan. We don't know what to expect from the tour, it will be an experience for us. I think we should be going by Christmas.

Oh yeah, on Friday we're all off to Dublin to do a couple of stints at the New Maron's Hotel and the Daily Mount Stadium, we're gonna be on stage jamming with Thin Lizzy. Right, shall we go into the dressing room, our roadies want to clear up.



Looking After N°1

Once inside John had a well earned rest. You could see how tired he was - but this was not the reason he had his Py-Jamas on ! At this point Pete (bass) entered with painfull assesment.

' I'm starting to feel sick - arrh'I feel bit better now.

C.C. What's your view of tonights gig ?

Pete. I thought we have played better gig's at other places.

C.C. You're fans seem to think that your performance was great

Pete. Yer, the heat was very hampering and bearing in mind that, I think we had a great audience here, they had themselves a enjoyable night.

C.C. As the Boomtown Rat's are going to be jamming with Thin Lizzy in Dublin, can any musical appreciation be drawn between you and them ?

Pete. Well, I think Thin Lizzy are a good band, as indeed they have proved over the last few years. I can actually listen to them, but that's as far as it goes, they haven't exactly caused a musical revolution with thier music.

C.C. This is a Tight schedule you are now entering. What effect do you expect it to have on you ?

Pete. I can't really say how the next few weeks are going effect me, because I've never been in a position like this before, as a group we have'nt had that many gigs bunched together so in that respect I'm looking forward to the hard work. We're going to pace ourselves to about 4 gigs a week.

C.C. Do you mind being away from home for so long.

Pete. I miss my own country but I know I'll get back eventually. As you know we'll be back tommorrow night. We'll be back from Ireland on Wednesday, then we start gigging the following week, I'd like to play at the Marquee again, I really like the place except the heat, and the difficulty of getting younger people to come and see us. Some of them do manage to get in I saw them at the front.

Bob walks in, still exhausted from the energetic performance he'd put in.

Bob. There really should have been better restrictions on the number's allowed in - but money means alot to certain people ! Its exploitation but we have to play because we have to survive.

C.C. How's the new single going ?

Bob. It's shitted the charts, we've sold 17,000 copies and believe this the BBC is going to play our record even more times than the Brother Hood Of Man.

All across the board the single has recieved rave reviews.

C.C. Who's the main influence in the band.

Gonna Do You In !

Bob. There are many styles in the band. So we can't just get up on stage a perform, it would be a mess. We spend alot of our time on the arrangements of our material, the music is very important to us. I don't like this childlike drone put out by some groups !

C.C. Do you dislike the more older and established groups.

Bob was very adamant with his reply..

I won't put down the Stones or the Beatles they have given alot to rock music Keith Richard is Mr Rock'n'Roll, he lives and breathes Rock'n'Roll. I can't stand Iggy Pop. There is so much dishonesty in the New Wave, certain well know Punk Groups are filthy rich, but plead poverty and say they are the same as you - (Punks) don't befooled, they are'nt what they seem.

I admire the Damned, they are what they say, no bullshit, they're in it for fun, and who can say they don't have fun.? The Ramones are a Pop group, they play music for now. We play Pop music.

WE PLAY TODAY'S MUSIC !



Victims & Members At the Roxy Club

+ THE MEMBERS !

This really should have been a review of GENERATION X'S MARQUEE GIG. But we left it too late and we were fucking locked out. The Marquee full, it must have been hotter than the Sahara! Anyway we dragged ourselves over to the 'ROXY' and had a few thirst quenchers which burnt a big bloody hole in our pocket, then we amused ourselves with games of television tennis.

Time moved on, and at about 10.30pm, "The Members" took the stage. NickiRitz the singer did a 1,2,3 - 4 and ——— nothing, try again lads; they managed to get going the second time, a disastrous start which could be said for the rest of the set.

It was a pity because there was some neat numbers, the names of which Nicki forgot to introduce. Nicki tried hard to handle the crowds verble, by retaliating with such gems as 'oh piss off' !!! 'go back to your suburban holes' still another barrage of insults from the crowd. Nicki replie's 'get lost' and other pathetic lines. The Members left the stage to silence.

I spoke to the group in the dressing room after.

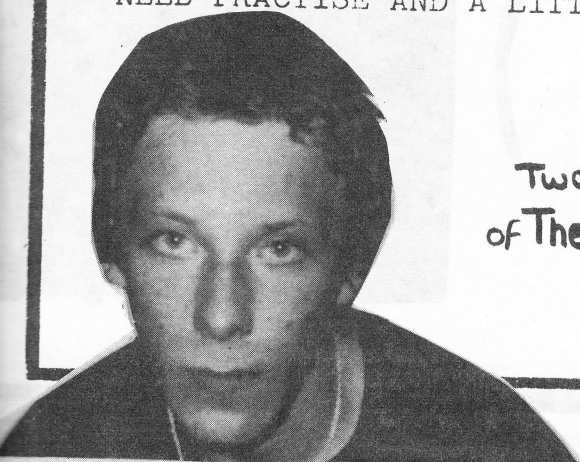
CITY CHAINS. What was your verdict on tonights Performance.

NICKI. "What can I say, we were rubbish, absolute rubbish.

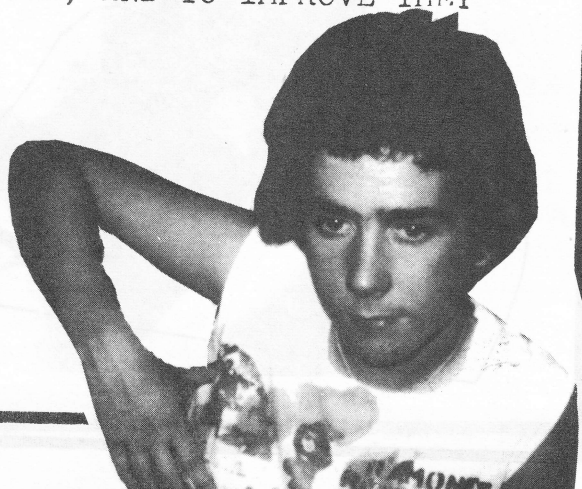
STEVE STRAIGHT. Guitarist. "I don't want to make any excuses, but we had no sound check or practice and a few other problems to overcome that was before we even set a foot on the fucking stage" C.C All I can add to this is they were bad, but alot of the blame can be put down to nerves after all it was their debut gig.

If you want to catch 'The Members' they have a couple of gigs lined up in the near future at vortex and the marquee.

GIVE THEM A CHANCE. THEY CAN ONLY IMPROVE, AND TO IMPROVE THEY NEED PRACTISE AND A LITTLE SUPPORT.



Two Members
of The Victims



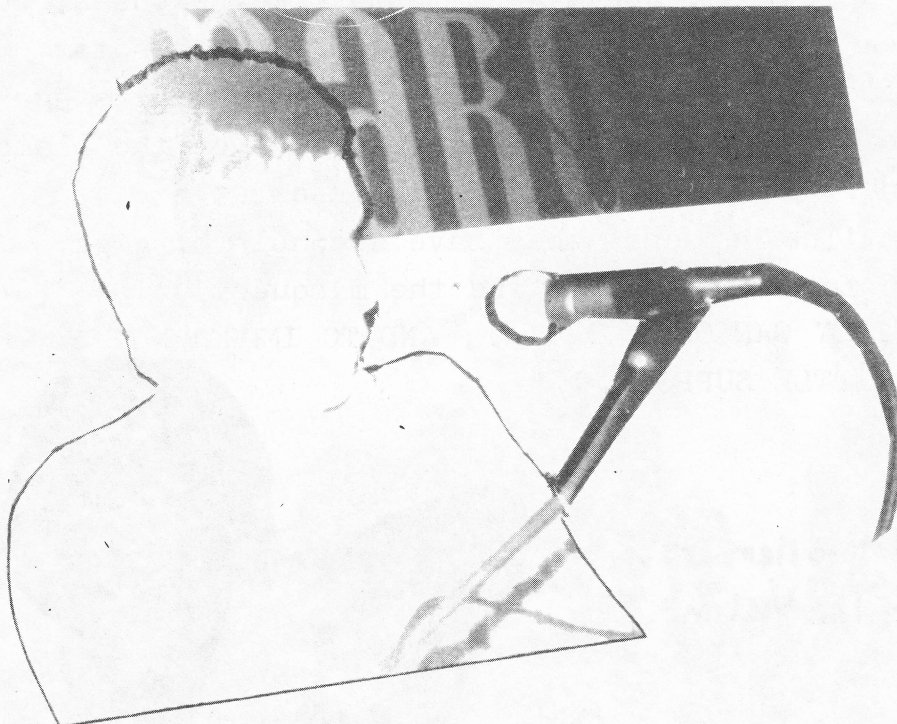
CITY



ABOVE: PETE BRIQUETTE + BOB GELDOF



MIDDLE ABOVE GERRY COTT AND
LEFT JOHNNY FINGERS
BELOW BOB GELDOF SWEAT
RIGHT GROTESQUE ACTION



CENTRE



**BOB GELDOF IN FULL SWING
KEYBOARDS
AFTER 'GOMMA DO YOU IN'
- BOB GELDOF**



ABOVE BOB GELDOF



the Roxy Contd...

'THE VICTIMS' consisting of:-

Chris Knott - singer

Andy Hubble - Drummer

Steve Wilson - Bass

Glyn Davis - Lead

They're all from Birmingham, and start a nationwide tour at the begining of september, they are a good confident band, who've had lot's of concert experience, which showed itself here tonight. Still even they had problems to overcome.

Roy Massey (Victims manager) "The PA was crap"

Chris " It was really cronic" in which Steve added "we might as well have been playing to a graveyard !"

C.C. How do you feel about tonights performance.

Chris. Well I was disappointed. We can do much better. Actually this gig was all arranged at the last minute, so we didnt have much time to rehearse and do a soundcheck.

Andy. This club is so small, everything seems so crowded. It's diffiicult place to play: Do you know I had to look for some of my equipment for about twenty minutes it was just impossible to find it !

C.C.How comes this gig was a last minute thing.

Chris. Well, we were booked with Generation X's Marquee gig, but they refused us the gig - which by the had been arranged weeks previous, and no reason was given.

C.C. What kind of audience do you hope to reach.

Glyn. We're not just playing for punks we're playing for everybody

C.C. What is you opinion on the future of punk music.

Chris. I can see the punk scene developing into a new form; what form it will turn into, I'm not sure, I don't think anyone does.

C.C. What part do you think The Pistols have played in Punk Music

Chris. Oh, a hell of a lot, The Pistols opended the door's for everybody. They were the inovators.

Glyn. In my eyes the Pistols have saved live music.

Steve. We've got a lot to thank the Pistols for !

Time was moving on , and work had to be done, me the writing and The Victims, assisting their roadie with their equipment, a great bunch of lads, with a power packed show.

Chig

POSh or POOR ?

I'm not going to put the Punk movement into three easy definitions but I feel these are the main three :- Political; Musical, and fashion's. Read this page carefully and ask your selves what you are a Punk for. Many of you are getting confused by your motives.

Firstly don't let anyone tell you Punk is'nt Political, oh sure there's alot of Punks-(so called) who dress like Punks, dance like Punks, but do they think like Punks, Do they Hell; how can a millio-aires son, for instance say, he's a Punk, when he can go home to daddy any time, and have the security of his wealth. You can't have rich people suddenly jumping up and proclaiming themselves as one of us, it' just don't wear, for a start Punks ain't exactly rich.

A Punk is someone who's protesting. Protesting against almost everything that's been drummed into him/her all their lives. Don't do this, don't do that, normal people are'nt like that. Well listen brother, you do what you fucking want, and if being normal means being tied down to a job and a rented flat all your life, become abnormal, it'll turn out to be much more fun.

So to all those rich idle people, playing at being Punks, it's Two Fingers and get lost. On the subject of rich people, it would'nt damage some of these Punk shops to lower their prices abit, because it's a bit heavy expecting kids on the dole to pay £20. for a pair of trousers, so come on you lot lower your prices, so some real Punks can buy something now and a gain, or keep your prices the same if you want to keep the working class away!

Music is the main thing in a Punk's life. When you hear that beat, and actually feel the music vibrating up your whole body until you find yourself hitting the roof in excitment, nothing else matters. You need music to survive, if you ain't got music, you'll find yourself just living for work. After you've finished your eight hours or whatever at work , and you come home, you can put on the record player and play your Pistols record and forget everything you did at work and START TO LIVE AGAIN.

Do you know a little more now or were you already OK !
PUNKS NEED MUSIC, more than any politician or any pair of leather trousers.

After all that talk about the way Punks are being scewed for their money, I'll carry on with ways to make your own clothes different, because you are more important than any fashion designer's, idea of how you should dress.

You do need straight trousers; flares or bags are definetly out. If you can spare a few quid it's worth a visit to any church or school jumble sale, you can pick up some good stuff there,.

Moving on to shirts; almost anything will do, just splash it all over with ink or paint colours and if you have a white shirt handy make up your own slogans, and scribble it all over ya shirt.

Don't worry too much about shoes-again anything will do, black's a good choice though. It's surprising what you can do with your old clothes. So have a scout around and sort some out.

When you see these punks who are dressed in stuff from 'Boys etc' just laugh up ya sleeve, you've done somthing original.

Chig

sex ^{the} Pist@LS

If you're expecting another one of those Sex Pist@ls = Future of Rock and Roll article. then you're in for a disappointment.

The music Press overkill on the Pist@ls recently has been sickening, just like the crappy fold out posters and badges. They aint worth our bother-its like capitalist big business taking it all away from us, making money and in the process watering down the contents-Taming what was once a threat to them.

When the Pist@ls first started playing(or trying to play) two years ago they were unique and the most threatening group around.

I first saw them down the 100 club about 18 months ago and that was still true then.

A group never looked like this before the dress, the sneer, the way they looked so inept fumbling over their instruments awkwardly.

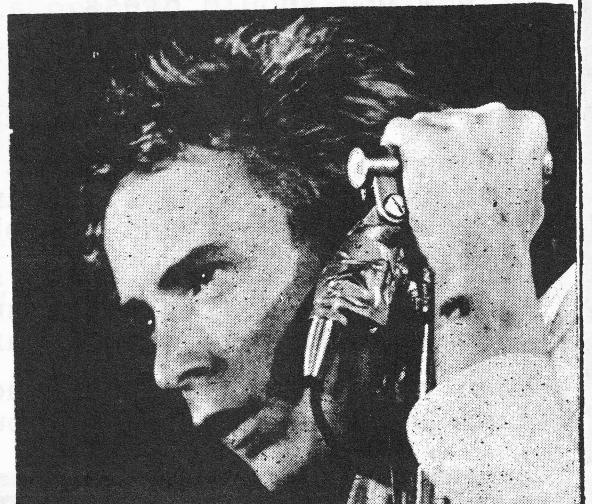
It was necessary to take an extreme stand to let people know what they were about. Rotten quotes like the cynical "Woodstock baby" and "We hate everything" polarized opinion.

Now when all the kids are going round with hate and anarchy stencilled on their shirt, Rotten admits to liking music he never would publically (then). After the sneer and the threat, came the style; (seditionary's bondage trousers at £30 a shot) and only quite recently devastating music.

Sure the Pist@ls could already Play when I first saw them even though they lumbered around as if they could'nt. Its only since the beginning of this year that they've unleashed the heavy metal barrage we all know and love. Now, They're just one of my favourite bands. No more, No less I'm not one of those who put them on a pedestal. There's other stuff around equally as good. The Clash and The Buzzcocks for a start write better songs, and only The Slits, seem to be able to freak out an audience the way the Pist@ls used to.. It may or may not be significant that the Pist@ls have worked only one new song - Holiday in the Sun into the set since the departure of Matlock, and that seems ages ago. The last single was the biggest disappointment yet. "pretty vacant" once sounded so totally moronic and crazed, so intense that you'd love it. Now its a good enough single (great riff etc) but somethings missing it sounds too clean and cynical. There's better to come, I'm sure. I hope so anyway.

Rotten is still Anarchy. Remember the meaning of the word-? self-rule or something, didn't they say? Punk rock is about Anarchy, being what you want to be, not following fashion, or posing down Vortex, or putting up your IPC Rotten poster.

And just be warned Rotten might just carry out his threat and give up when it all becomes too easy.



See Yer
Major Thrills

Mad Russians Wipe out the Roxy :- by RAPE HUNGER

The Roxy has certainly gone downhill since those wild and wonderful days when the first division Punk outfits like the Clash and Generation X used to do two sets a night. And it weren't up to much even then, now they've got a bloke on the door who wants to know are you a member and behind him your typical muscles and tatoos chucker out who prefers not to let you in, in the first place, and treats you to a truly terrifying look that says he'll know what to do if you start anything. And any pratt signing himself in as Rape Hunger and carrying a tape-recorder into the bargain is definitely trying to start something, 'you can leave that 'ere for ten pence' sez he. 'Thanx' sez I 'but I prefer to hang on to it' This marks me down as a wise-guy straight away, so Chig explains that we're friends of the group and the cassette is for recording them talking to us, not to make ourselves rich by recording the first Varicose Veins bootleg (who, buy the way, are the group we've come to see, along with Slaughter and the Dogs) but Einstein ain't having any 'I donts care 'oo yer know, yer can't bring vat fing in 'ere wivaht the guv'nors sayso' the guv'nor appears and surprises everybody especially muscles, by saying all right, so in we go.

Inside its the same old place but with a big something missing- the kids are sitting or standing around but not even bothering to pose (how boring) cause they know that no-one would take the trouble to watch them if they did. Plus the beer is sixty pee a pint, Elaine can't get anyone to buy the mag (thanx a lot, Jews) and the disco is crap, so off we toddle into the dressing room and run into pel of the Veins who tells us the rest of the group are in some boozier. In fact the only good thing about this place so far is that I'm here! The rest of the Veins turn up and we have a little natter before they go on. But I'm not saying anything about them because I think Chig's reviewing their set and anyway all you V.V fans should have brought last month's City Chains should'nt you? and if you missed it you're gonna go out and get it now aren't you? yeah.

After the set we all wombled back into the dressing room-hole where we find out that Slaughter and the Dogs have'nt turned up. And this is where the BAZOOMIS come on to the scene (about fucking time, you're all thinking) you see, there's a bunch of very mean looking characters hanging about, some of them with guitars and things, who turned out to be the group going on instead of Slaughter. They're called the Bazoomis and I've never even heard of them but we corner one of 'em and give him the third degree. He's John (I think it was, anyway) who plays bass and tells us the rest of the firm are Mick and Tim, both on guitar, Arnold on drums, and the lead singer who introduces himself by sticking his face up to the mike on my cassette and squawking 'MET' which just happens to be his name. He says he used to be a butcher which doesn't surprise me one bit.

John (or maybe it was Mick) gives us an rundown on the songs:- GIVE IT ALL TO ME- like when you're at this age you want everything, right? PUSHER- about a bloke who sells drugs to some bloke who dont want it. HOT STATIONS- about a guy who goes aroundburning every fucking Station up, fire stations and that: BUNDLE- is about our singer he had this fight with some guy''. He looks at Met'' This guy is fuckin' loopy, y' know. PUNKHEAD. LIVING IN TOWN, LIFE GETS HARDER, and so it does.

He tells me they're been together about a year, and have done 8 gigs

so far, which don't seem a lot so I asked him how good are they are - I mean, can they actually play? 'We're the BEST and you're gonna hear a lot of us soon, a lot about us! I guarantee that!' Met joins in the conversation, music's just a big bullshit most of the time you know, but if your audience is all right..... you see we go loopy on stage, we're all maniacs, right, Bazoomis means mad, it's Russian, for mad, like in clockwork Orange, we go loopy so we try to get the audience to go loopy and everyone just has a fuckin' good time. The only good time we have is when we're on the stage, all the other stuff is shit'. But are they just in it for the grin? or are they aiming at becoming more well known? Met echoes, John: We're the best! This mob ain't exactly lacking confidence, as far as they're concerned they're ready for bigger things NOW and if the rest of the world don't see that, its time they changed the batteries in their hearing-aids. But that's enough backstage bullshit, its time to go on. The acid test!, this is where they either prove it or get booted back to New Southgate.

Pretty Vacant is playing as the band come on, and Tim joins in, for a few bars, which comes over louder than the record and every bit as good. Met, pint in hand grabs a mike. 'Alwright we're the Bazoomis owarya ? and then they're away into the first number, Jimmy Slim, pure 70's rock played good and fast about being a rock'nroll kid and putting it up your nose, comes over really well, I'd like to have it on a single. Hot Station follows, and the audience are already showing their appreciation by jumping all over each other. Met and John make an ace visual focus, John moves all over the stage, screwing his face up and being a right nutter while Met stays in more or less the same spot but with his arms and legs jerking all the time as if he's plugged into a machine.



Halfway through the number Tim takes a guitar break, and all eyes are on his 1950's guitar hero-rebel pose, legs apart, leaning back and ladies and gentlemen, can this guy play, or what? I don't know much about guitars, but the clean, hard chords that he's chopping out of his flying vee or whatever it's called makes it impossible to keep still.

The numbers come in rapid order but I'm too busy enjoying meself to take notes. They're all loud, all fast and all bloody good. At the end of Pusher, which has a real Stooges - type holocaust finish, everyone playing at '78 rpm and Arnold belting shit out of Varicous Veins drum kit. The audience cracking up, Met going like a robot on sulphate everyone having a GOOD TIME, RIGHT!. In a real teenage frustration, they finish with Don't Listen To What They Say, it's about everyone telling you what to do and how to do it instead of letting you find out for yourself, a really Strong, catchy number, with the title line repeated in a sort of chant. And then grins all round they're gone ! to the loudest applause I've heard in the Roxy. Hot Station is the encore, and the general good-feeling-at-a-riot atmosphere provokes some young wit to try and tear Met's trousers off and nearly does.

THE BAZOOMIS ARE EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS THEIR WORD, DEFINITE STAR-QUALITY, AND DESERVING BIGGER AND BETTER GIGS THAN THE ROXY, SO REMEMBER THE NAME -YOU'LL BE HEARING FROM THEM.



City Chain's
yer actual 1977

SHAM 69
interview + pictures

The Damned's
brian james
Chat & Pic's

MICK JONES
the Clash
Just pictures

all this & much more
in next issue